

CLAIMS

1. An ink jet printing apparatus for printing by  
ejecting an ink containing a colorant from a print head,  
5 comprising:

at least one ink absorber containing a coagulation  
inhibitor and absorbing the ink discharged from the  
print head, the coagulation inhibitor inhibiting a  
coagulation of the colorant contained in the ink.

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2. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim  
1, further comprising a platen supporting a print medium  
from below in an area including a print area where the  
print head ejects the ink onto the print medium;

15 wherein the at least one ink absorber is installed in  
the platen to absorb the ink ejected outside the print  
medium when a printing operation is performed on edge  
portions of the print medium.

20 3. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim  
1, further comprising:

a preliminary ejection means for preliminary-ejecting  
the ink from the print head; and

a preliminary ejection receiver for accommodating  
25 the ink preliminary-ejected by the preliminary ejection  
means;

wherein the at least one ink absorber absorbs the ink

accommodated in the preliminary ejection receiver.

4. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 an ink discharging means for discharging the ink from the print head by other than an ejection; and

an ink discharging path for transporting the ink discharged by the ink discharging means;

wherein the at least one ink absorber absorbs the ink  
10 transported through the ink discharging path.

5. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

a reaction liquid head for ejecting a reaction liquid,  
15 the reaction liquid accelerating a coagulation of colorant contained in the ink;

a reaction liquid discharging means for discharging the reaction liquid from the reaction liquid head; and

a reaction liquid discharging path for transporting  
20 the reaction liquid discharged by the reaction liquid discharging means;

wherein the at least one ink absorber absorbs the ink transported through the ink discharging path and the reaction liquid transported through the reaction liquid  
25 discharging path.

6. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim

1, further comprising:

a reaction liquid head for ejecting a reaction liquid, the reaction liquid accelerating a coagulation of colorant contained in the ink.

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7. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a supply means for supplying the coagulation inhibitor to the at least one ink absorber.

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8. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said supply means comprises a coagulation inhibiting liquid head for ejecting the coagulation inhibitor.

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9. An ink jet printing apparatus for printing by ejecting an ink containing a colorant from a print head, comprising:

20 an ink absorber for absorbing the ink discharged from the print head; and

an application means for applying a coagulation inhibitor to the ink absorber, the coagulation inhibitor inhibiting a coagulation of the colorant contained in the ink.

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10. A method of manufacturing an ink absorber applicable to the ink jet printing apparatus of claim 1,

comprising the steps of:

immersing the ink absorber in a liquid containing the coagulation inhibitor; and

drying the ink absorber immersed with the liquid.

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11. An ink absorber manufactured by the method of claim 10.